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Annual Reports of the Municipal Officers and Supervisor of Schools of the Town of Farmington, for the Year Ending February 18, 1889

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ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

MUNICIPAL OFFICERS

AND

SUPERVISOR OF SCHOOLS

OF THE

TOWN OF FARMINGTON,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 18, 1889.

FARMINGTON:
PRESS OF KNOWLTON, McLEARY & CO..
1889.

TOWN WARRANT.

*To Wm. H. Pearson, Constable of the Town of Farmington, in
the County of Franklin,*

GREETING :

In the name of the State of Maine you are hereby required to notify and warn the Inhabitants of the said Town of Farmington, qualified by law to vote on town affairs, to meet at Music Hall, in said town, on the 4th day of March next, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, to act on the following articles, to wit:—

- ARTICLE 1. To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.
- ART. 2. To choose all necessary town officers for the ensuing year.
- ART. 3. To see if the town will vote to elect a Supervisor of Schools.
- ART. 4. To see what sum of money the town will vote to raise for the Support of Schools the ensuing year.
- ART. 5. To see what sum of money the town will vote to raise for the Support of the Poor the ensuing year.
- ART. 6. To see what sum of money the town will vote to raise to defray Town Charges the ensuing year.
- ART. 7. To see what sum of money the town will vote to raise to pay Outstanding Indebtedness.
- ART. 8. To see what sum of money the town will vote to raise to pay Interest on Outstanding Indebtedness.
- ART. 9. To see what sum of money the town will vote to raise for the Repair of Roads and Bridges, and how the same shall be expended.
- ART. 10. To see what sum of money the town will vote to raise for the Repair of Large Bridges.
- ART. 11. To see if the town will elect a Road Commissioner for the ensuing year.
- ART. 12. To see if the town will raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Dollars for the observance of Memorial Day.
- ART. 13. To see if the town will vote to raise Three Hundred Dollars for abatement on taxes for the ensuing year.
- ART. 14. To see if the town will vote to raise Three Hundred Dollars for Collection of Taxes the ensuing year.

- ART. 15. To see if the town will vote to abate the taxes assessed on the real estate formerly owned by widow E. H. Church.
- ART. 16. To see if the town will vote to pay W. I. Butterfield for one horse, lost.
- ART. 17. To see what sum of money the town will vote to raise to pay for hose and appliances requisite for the protection of Farmington Falls against Fire.
- ART. 18. To see if the town will vote to raise a sum of money not to exceed Fifty Dollars for the purpose of hiring a suitable room for holding the Municipal Court of the town of Farmington.
- ART. 19. To see if the town will vote to establish a Liquor Agency.
- ART. 20. To see if the town will vote to elect an Auditor for the ensuing year.
- ART. 21. To see if the town will vote to raise Five Hundred Dollars for a Free High School.
- ART. 22. To see if the town will vote to tax Dogs for the ensuing year.
- ART. 23. To see if the town will vote to build a sidewalk from Walton's Mills to West Farmington Depot.
- ART. 24. To see how the Taxes shall be collected, and when made payable.
- ART. 25. To see if the town will vote to instruct the several School Districts to elect their School Agents the ensuing year.
- ART. 26. To see what instruction the town will give the Assessors relative to taking the Inventory of said town.
- ART. 27. To see if the town will vote to establish a Town System of Schools.
- ART. 28. To see if the town will vote to set off the real and personal estates of Geo. A. Smith and wife and F. E. Ham of West Farmington village, now in District No. 22 into District No. 9.
- ART. 29. To see if the town will vote to accept the town way as located by the Selectmen from High Street to Main Street.
- ART. 30. To see if the town will vote to accept the town way as located by the Selectmen from Pleasant Street to the Electric Light Factory.
- ART. 31. To see if the town will vote to accept the town way as located by the Selectmen from Bridge Street to Oak Street.

The Selectmen give notice that they shall be in session for the purpose of correcting the list of voters in said town, and hearing and deciding upon the application of persons claiming to have their names entered upon said list, at the Selectmen's Office, at 2 o'clock, P. M., Saturday, March 2, A. D. 1889, and at 8 o'clock in the forenoon on the day of said meeting.

Given under our hands this 15th day of February, A. D. 1889.

F. C. PERKINS,	} <i>Selectmen of the Town of Farmington.</i>
HIRAM TITCOMB,	
SAM'L G. CRAIG,	

SELECTMEN'S ANNUAL REPORT.

To the Citizens of the Town of Farmington:

Your Selectmen would respectfully submit the following report in relation to the financial condition of the Town, together with the amount of receipts and expenditures from February 18th, 1888, to February 18th, 1889.

ASSESSMENTS.

After taking inventory of the real and personal estate, we found the valuation of the town to be Fifteen Hundred Seventy-six Thousand One Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$1,576,150), viz.: Total amount of Real Estate, \$1,149,150; Total amount of Personal Property, \$426,240; and the number of Polls to be 868, and the number of Dogs, 130.

Upon the Polls and Estates we have assessed the following named sums, to wit:

For State Tax,	\$4,412 29	
County Tax,	2,846 70	
Support of Schools,	3,000 00	
Support of the Poor,	2,500 00	
Town Charges,	2,500 00	
Interest on Outstanding Indebtedness,	600 00	
Collecting Taxes for the ensuing year,	300 00	
Abatements,	300 00	
Observance of Memorial Day,	50 00	
Paying Outstanding Indebtedness,	1,000 00	
Repairing Roads and Bridges,	6,000 00	
Repairing Large Bridges,	1,000 00	
The Support of a Free High School,	500 00	
Overlayings,	1,234 70	
Tax on Dogs,	130 00	\$26,373 69
		<hr/>

On the 25th day of June, A. D. 1888, we committed lists of said assessments unto Wm. H. Pearson, Collector of said town.

We subsequently committed a supplemental assessment to said Collector, amounting to the sum of Four Hundred Twelve Dollars and Forty-four Cents (\$412.44), making the total committed to the Collector, \$26,786.13.

SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 1.

Union with District No. 9, in Chesterville.

Valuation of Real Estate,	\$70,930 00
Personal Property,	24,950 00
Number of Polls, Sixty-one.	

On the polls and estates we have assessed the following sums, to wit:

For payment of Interest-bearing Debt	
and Repairs for 1888,	\$ 166 90
Overlays,	8 17
Total	<u>\$ 175 07</u>

SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 4.

Valuation of Real Estate,	\$502,220 00
Personal Estate,	207,720 00
Number of Polls, Three Hundred and Fourteen.	

On the polls and estates we have assessed the following sums, to wit:

For paying Outstanding Debts and	
Repairs,	\$748 00
Overlays,	36 24
Total,	<u>\$784 24</u>

On the 25th day of June we committed the foregoing lists of said assessments unto Wm. H. Pearson, Collector of said town.

SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS.

Amount of money raised by the town,	\$3,000 00
School Fund and Mill Tax,	1,666 88
Interest on Town School Fund,	88 22
Total,	<u>\$4,755 10</u>

After deducting the sum of \$261.58 from this amount to be given to smaller districts, as authorized by law, the remainder was apportioned to the several districts according to the number of scholars returned by the agents, being at the rate of \$4.74 to each scholar.

The division of school money is made April 1st.

No.	DISTRICT.	Number of Scholars.	Balance Feb. 18, 1888.	Amount Apportioned April 1, 1888.	Amount of Orders drawn since Feb. 18, 1888.	Balance Feb. 18, 1889.
1	Falls (Union),	48	\$10 91	\$227 52	\$256 00	{ O'rd'n \$17 57
2	Gower,	11	31 12	82 14	113 26	
3	Norton Flat,	83	173 43	393 42	417 68	149 17
4	Village,	371	273 75	1758 54	1588 27	444 02
5	Fairbanks,	58	19 17	274 92	131 60	162 49
7	Sprague,	23	30 30	129 02	123 55	35 77
9	West Farmington,	146	171 47	692 04	570 65	292 86
11	Greenwood,	13	1 83	81 62	89 05	{ O'rd'n 5 60
12	Knowlton's Corner,	18	7 99	110 32	119 10	{ O'r d'n 79
14	Briggs,	25	25 71	138 50	110 60	53 61
15	Russell's,	29	17 40	152 46	158 78	11 08
16	Porter's Hill,	5	23 80	38 70	58 87	3 63
17	Bailey Hill,	14	{ O'rd'n 2 00	91 36	89 03	33
18	Titcomb,	16	7 74	105 84	112 65	93
19	Mosher Hill,	19	3 49	115 06	116 72	1 83
20	Holley,	14	8 95	81 36	84 22	6 09
21	J. B. Holley,	12	4 40	76 88	76 31	4 97
23	North Chesterville,	16	2 30	75 84	73 60	4 54
25	Furbush (Union),	10	58 38	47 40	75 04	30 74
26	D. H. Smith,	2		10 00		10 00
28	Allen's Mills (Un'n),	7	1 21	33 18		34 39
30	Hillman,	2	8 78	9 48		18 26
31	McIntosh,	6	37	29 50	29 87	
8	Currier,		80 43		78 50	1 93
10	Sewall,		107 72		105 47	2 25
22	Walton's Mill,		26 26		4 80	21 46
		<u>948</u>	<u>\$1094 91</u>	<u>\$4755 10</u>	<u>\$4583 62</u>	<u>\$1266 39</u>

Balance due school districts, Feb. 18, 1888,	\$1,094 91
Amount of school money apportioned, April 1, 1889,	4,755 10
Total,	<u>\$5,850 01</u>

Orders drawn since Feb. 18, 1888,	\$4,583 62
Balance due school districts, Feb. 18, 1889,	1,266 39
	<u>\$5,850 01</u>

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

Paid Surveyors' Orders for work done before May 1, 1888,	\$2,844 75
" " for labor and material since May 1,	
1888, exclusive of machine labor,	1,903 39
Orders for expenses and labor with machine,	837 26
	<u>\$5,685 40</u>
Rec'd of New Vineyard for building road,	20 00
	<u>\$5,665 40</u>
Appropriation,	\$6,000 00

LARGE BRIDGES, &C.

Expended on Centre Bridge,	\$ 108 72
Falls Bridge,	51 02
Walton's Mills Bridge,	134 77
Norcross Bridge,	2 00
Russell's Mills Bridge,	68 79
Abbott Bridge,	21 04
Mosher Bridge,	10 65
Sewer from Main to Front Sts.,	426 50
	<u>\$723 49</u>
Appropriation,	\$1,000 00

ABATEMENTS.

For year 1887,	\$ 496 09
" " 1888,	71 12
	<u>\$ 567 21</u>
Appropriation,	\$300 00

COLLECTION OF TAXES.

To E. J. Dyar, in full for services as Collector for 1887,	\$ 500 00
Appropriation,	\$300 00

MEMORIAL DAY.

Paid A. J. Gerry for G. A. R. Post,	\$50 00
Appropriation,	\$50 00

SUPPORT OF POOR.

Maine Insane Hospital,	\$ 509 66
State Reform School,	50 90
Support of poor, and charged to Temple,	53 98
Supplies furnished the poor, and charged to Anson,	47 69
Supplies furnished the poor, and charged to Jay,	39 99
Supplies furnished the poor, and charged to New Sharon,	28 00
Supplies furnished the poor, and charged to Eastport,	28 75
Supplies furnished the poor, and charged to State of Maine,	62 78
Supplies furnished the poor, and charged to Dixfield,	7 00
Supplies furnished the poor, and charged to town,	33 50
Keeping tramps,	5 00
R. Hanley Smith, balance on contract to April, 1888,	840 67
R. Hanley Smith for part payment on contract to Apr. 1, 1889,	1,419 13
	<hr/>
	\$3,127 05

Your Overseers contracted with R. Hanley Smith for support of all paupers of said town, except those insane, who now need assistance, and all persons who may hereafter become chargeable, subject to certain conditions, for one year from April 1, 1888, for the sum of \$1,975.

Amount paid out for poor, \$3,127.05, less \$268.19 due	
from other towns,	\$2,858 86
Appropriation,	\$2,500 00

TOWN CHARGES.

J. H. Plummer, for curbstone,	\$ 175 00
Elijah Norton, John Titcomb, Laforest F. Tufts, and Han- nibal Belcher, for services as Trustees of school fund for 4 years,	8 00

J. H. Bonney, for services as Trustee and Clerk of school fund for 4 years,	6 00
Alvin Currier, for services as Trustee and Treasurer of school fund for 4 years,	22 00
E. B. Norton, for services as S. S. Committee for year ending March 5, 1888,	54 00
Mrs. E. T. Sewall, for services as S. S. Committee for year ending March 5, 1888,	56 50
Mrs. L. M. Ames, for services as S. S. Committee for year ending March 5, 1888,	65 25
S. G. Craig, for services as Selectman for year ending March 5, 1888,	130 00
F. C. Perkins, for services as Selectman for year ending March 5, 1888,	130 00
Hiram Titcomb, for services as Selectman for year ending March 5, 1888,	112 00
P. P. Tufts, for services as Treasurer for year ending March 5, 1888,	100 00
I. W. Merrill, for services as Town Clerk for year ending March 5, 1888,	15 00
F. O. Lyford, for services as member of Board of Health for year ending May, 1888,	34 70
A. F. Gammon, for services as member of Board of Health for year ending May, 1888,	15 00
L. B. Stoyell, damage on highway,	100 00
Wm. H. Wyman, " "	6 00
S. C. Paine, " "	1 75
J. M. Bass, " "	50
J. H. Plummer, for granite,	121 00
Peter P. Tufts, for sundries,	67 64
Edwin N. Stevens' Sons, for barbed wire,	2 94
Knowlton, McLeary & Co., printing,	72 25
F. C. Perkins's expenses to Portland, Lewiston and Jay,	13 45
Hiram Titcomb's expenses to Lewiston,	5 60
S. G. Craig's expenses to Madison,	4 50
Watering tubs,	41 00
S. G. Craig, for wood for office,	3 75
Franklin County, land damage on road,	75 00
C. F. Packard, for office sign and guide boards,	11 00

Alonzo Sylvester, services as truant officer,	5 98
J. H. Bonney & Co., for drain tile for sewers and used in 1887,	312 22
H. L. Goodwin, for printing,	5 00
John Morrison, for moving town building,	15 50
Otis S. Gould, for labor during fire,	1 00
Henry Brawn, for damage crossing two farms in winter of 1887 and 1888,	10 00
A. J. Wheeler, laying concrete sidewalk,	188 50
N. H. Williamson, moving fence,	1 00
D. M. Howse and others for bricks and sewer grates,	126 92
Freight on brick and tile,	23 89
Paid for granite,	19 85
J. H. Bonney and others, for drain pipe for sewers used in 1888,	388 19
	<hr/>
	\$2546 88
Appropriation,	\$2,500 00

TOWN BONDS OUTSTANDING.

Due April 1, 1889, at 4 per cent.,	\$ 3,800 00	
Due April 1, 1892, at 3 per cent.,	9,500 00	
Due Oct. 1, 1894, at 3 per cent.,	2,000 00	\$15,300 00

TOWN ORDERS BEARING INTEREST.

Due Nov. 19, 1891, at 4 per cent.,	\$ 200 00	
Nov. 26, 1890, at 4 per cent.,	500 00	
Feb. 1, 1889, at 3 per cent.,	80 00	
Aug. 18, 1889, at 4 per cent.,	268 00	\$1,048 00
		<hr/>
		\$16,348 00

TAX DEEDS.

Daniel Hoyt, Collector of 1886, Sundry Tax Deeds,	\$ 121 60
E. J. Dyar, Collector of 1887, " " "	300 75
	<hr/>
	\$ 422 35

TAX.

For 1886, Daniel Hoyt, Collector, balance now due the town, \$ 39 20
 For 1888, Wm. H. Pearson, Collector, now due, 8,277 14

COMMITMENT.		Paid County Treasurer,		
State Tax,	\$4,412 29	Town	"	11,250 00
County Tax,	2,846 70	Due State	"	4,412 29
Town Tax,	19,527 14	Bal. due Co.	"	1,246 70
		" Town	"	8,277 14
	<u>\$26,786 13</u>			<u>\$26,786 13</u>

INTEREST.

Interest paid on Town Orders for year ending Feb. 18,
 1889, \$ 148 77
 Interest paid on Town Bonds for year ending Feb. 18,
 1888, 466 50
 \$ 615 27
 Appropriation, \$600 00

LIABILITIES.

Balance due School Districts, \$1,266 39
 " " Free High School, 88 00
 " subject to order of Highways May 1, 1889
 (estimated), 2,500 00
 Balance on contract for support of poor, due Apr. 1, 1889, 555 87
 Interest due on bonds and orders Apr. 1, 1889, 250 00
 Town Officers' bills for current year (estimated), 500 00
 Supervisor's bill for current year (estimated), 150 00
 Wm. H. Pearson, Collector, bill for current year, 395 00
 Town orders not on interest, 83 37
 Town orders bearing interest, 1,048 00
 Funded debt (town bonds), on interest, 15,300 00
 \$22,136 63

RESOURCES.

Tax due from Daniel Hoyt, Collector for 1886,	\$ 39 20
“ “ Wm. H. Pearson, Collector for 1888,	8,277 14
Due on tax deeds,	796 39
Due from other towns,	268 19
Real estate valued,	200 00
Amount of liquor on hand (estimated),	175 00
Cash in hand (Feb. 18, 1888) of Treasurer,	105 93
Cash deposited in Franklin County Savings Bank to meet 4 per cent. bonds due April 1, 1889,	2,200 00
Due from State on school fund and mill tax,	1,666 88
	<u>\$13,728 73</u>

Indebtedness of town Feb. 18, 1888,	\$10,624 81
“ “ “ “ 18, 1889,	8,407 90
Gain the past year,	<u>\$2,226 91</u>

ESTIMATES FOR THE ENSUING YEAR.

For Support of schools,	\$ 3,000 00
Support of poor,	2,500 00
Defraying town charges,	2,500 00
Collecting taxes for ensuing year,	300 00
Abatements,	300 00
Memorial Day,	50 00
Interest on bonds and orders,	500 00
Repairing roads and bridges, if under a commissioner,	5,000 00
Large Bridges,	750 00
Free High School,	500 00
Paying outstanding indebtedness,	1,000 00
	<u>\$16,400 00</u>

F. C. PERKINS,	} <i>Selectmen of the</i>
HIRAM TITCOMB,	
SAM'L G. CRAIG,	
	<i>Town of</i>
	<i>Farmington.</i>

TREASURER'S REPORT.

*Town of Farmington in Account with P. P. Tufts, Treasurer, for year
commencing Feb. 18, 1888, and ending Feb. 18, 1889.*

DR.

To paid Town Orders,	\$18,574 02
School Orders,	4,754 53
State Pension,	312 00
4 per cent. Town Bonds,	300 00
Coupons,	466 50
Interest on temporary loan,	148 77
Balance in hands of Treasurer,	2,305 93
	<u>\$26,861 75</u>

CR.

By Cash in Treasury, Feb. 18, 1888,	\$ 36 89
Of E. J. Dyar, Collector for 1887, in full;	8,062 07
W. H. Pearson, Collector for 1888, in part,	11,250 00
State for pensions paid,	312 00
On temporary loan, and paid,	3,300 00
On Tax Deeds,	275 46
On temporary loan, in orders not due,	268 00
Of Treasurer of Town School Fund, 1887,	88 22
" " " " " 1889,	89 36
" Towns, for Support of Poor,	157 37
For Licenses,	8 00
" Town Bonds, sold at 3 per cent.,	2,500 00
Of State, Railroad and Telegraph Tax, 1887,	44 49
" " " " " 1888,	49 89
" New Vineyard for building road,	20 00
" Selectmen for horses sold,	400 00
	<u>\$26,861 75</u>

*School District No. 1, Union with No. 9, Chesterville.***DR.**

To paid Orders drawn by Selectmen up to Feb. 18, 1889,	\$282 48
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CR.

By Rec'd of Collectors up to Feb. 18, 1889,	253 67
Overpaid by Treasurer,	\$ 28 81
Balance now due from Collector on 1888 tax,	\$ 75 07

*School District No. 4, in Farmington.***DR.**

To paid Orders drawn by Selectmen up to Feb. 18, 1889,	\$550 40
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CR.

By Rec'd of Collectors up to Feb. 18, 1889,	476 60
Overpaid by Treasurer,	\$ 73 80
Balance now due from Collector on 1888 tax,	\$384 24

*Trust Fund to keep burial lots and monuments in repair in account with
P. P. Tufts, Treasurer.*

CR.

May 3, 1887, By Cash of Matthew Brooks,	\$ 200 00
Interest on same,	11 53
Jan. 12, 1889, Of Alice M. Page estate,	50 00
No expenses to date,	
Deposited in Franklin Co. Savings Bank, Book No. 6116,	\$261 53

P. P. TUFTS, *Treasurer.*

SCHOOL REPORT.

Citizens of Farmington:

Having attended to his duties as Supervisor of the Public Schools of Farmington, the undersigned herewith presents for your consideration the Annual Report ; and in the review of the work for the past year and in the recommendations for future work will refer to and consider only the more prominent features and pressing needs. The average work and results for the year are very similar to those of former years, and differ only as affected by the changed conditions in many districts resulting from a diminution of the number of pupils and a consequent lessening of school privileges enjoyed by the pupils in such districts. In the large districts there has been an improved and satisfactory attendance ; the agents have been fortunate in receiving and retaining the services of good teachers, and necessarily the results have been in a remarkable degree profitable. In the smaller districts, too, with a few exceptions, as good results have been obtained as could be expected, when the yearly increasing disadvantages, under which these districts labor, are taken into account. Just what these disadvantages are will be considered more in detail later on in this report.

TEXT-BOOKS.

No new text-books have been adopted. The expense and confusion of changing text-books should be avoided, unless a change is obviously necessary. The introduction of Swinton's Geographies and Lippincott's Spellers, which were adopted in 1887 and partially introduced, has been completed.

TEMPERANCE INSTRUCTION.

Sec. 87 of School Laws of Maine :

" Provision shall be made by the proper local school authorities for instructing all pupils, in all schools, supported by public money, or under state control, in physiology and hygiene, with special reference to the effects of alcoholic drinks, stimulants and narcotics upon the human system."

In all of the schools temperance instruction has received attention,—more, I believe, than in any previous year. Many of our schools have had systematic text-book instruction: In other schools the teachers have given oral instruction, using topics and requiring the pupils to take notes upon the essential points. To teach orally requires vastly more complete and thorough knowledge of any subject on the part of the teacher than is required to teach with the aid of a text-book. I have found many teachers very deficient both in a scientific and a practical knowledge of the effects of alcoholic drinks, stimulants and narcotics. I would recommend that increased attention be given by teachers to this very important subject, that the effects of alcohol in all its phases may be indelibly stamped upon the minds of all.

COURSE OF STUDY FOR THE COMMON SCHOOLS.

I have endorsed the four years' course of study for the common schools, adopted by a previous school board, by continuing it. A definite plan of action, a systematic course of study, a goal to be reached, all stimulate to more earnest efforts, and I am confident that the graduating system, by supplying such incentives, increases the school attendance and interest of the pupils in school work. The majority of pupils are unwilling to leave school till they have obtained the desired diplomas. But it is true, that owing to the present great disparity in school privileges through this town, the maximum amount of benefit is not yet derived from this system, the various schools not being able to accomplish the same amount of work each year, and scholars and teachers thereby lose that healthy stimulus which such a system of work supplies.

I have thought it advisable to change the time of graduation from the winter to the summer, and for the following reasons: Graduates from our rural schools are admitted to the High School upon the presentation of diploma without examination. A very large percentage enter the High School as soon as they graduate. If they are graduated

in the winter, they are thus admitted exactly in the middle of its school year, and this causes considerable confusion. Graduates from our Grammar School are admitted only in the fall, and it seems highly proper that all should graduate and be admitted together. The graduating class for this year numbers about twenty ; of this number only a very few could receive diplomas this winter. For example, in District No. 9 where excellent work has been done, out of a class of about ten, the teacher informed me that he could not recommend more than one of them as well fitted for graduation, but that all would be well fitted at close of summer term. In Districts Nos. 1, 3 and 5 a similar condition exists.

TRUANT OFFICERS.

I would recommend that the town elect one Truant Officer for districts No. 1, 2, 11 and 12 ; another for districts No. 3, 4, and 9, and adjacent districts, and a third for the northern part of the town.

The Legislature of 1887 enacted the following law in relation to compulsory school attendance :

SECTION 1. Every person having under his control a child between the ages of eight and fifteen years, shall annually cause such child to attend, for at least sixteen weeks, some public school, which time shall be divided, so far as the arrangement of school terms will allow, into two terms each of eight consecutive weeks, and for every neglect of such duty, the person offending shall forfeit a sum not exceeding twenty-five dollars to the treasurer of the city or town for the use of the public schools in such city or town; but if such child has been otherwise furnished for a like period of time with the means of education, equal to that taught in the common schools of the State, or if his physical or mental condition is such as to prevent attendance at school or application to study, such penalty shall not be incurred.

SECT. 2. Children living remote from any public school in the town in which they reside may be allowed to attend the public schools in an adjoining town under such regulations and on such terms as the school committees of said towns agree upon and prescribe, and the school committee of the town in which such children reside shall pay the sum agreed upon out of the appropriations of money raised in said town for school purposes.

SECT. 3. Cities and towns shall annually elect one or more persons, to be designated truant officers, who shall inquire into all cases of neglect of the duty prescribed in section one, and ascertain the reasons therefor, and such truant officers or any one of them, shall, when so directed by the school committee or supervisor in writing, prosecute in the name of the city or town any person liable to the penalty provided in said section.

SECT. 4. Every city or town neglecting to elect truant officers, and truant officers neglecting to prosecute when directed, as required by law, shall forfeit not less than

ten nor more than fifty dollars to the use of the public schools in the city or town neglecting as aforesaid, or to the use of the public schools in the city or town where such truant officer resides.

SECT. 5. The municipal officers shall fix the compensation of the truant officers elected as prescribed in section three.

SECT. 6. Every boy between the ages of ten and fifteen years who refuses to attend school as required in section one and who may be found wandering about the streets or public places of any city or town during the school hours of the school day, while the school of which he is legally a scholar is in session, on complaint of the truant officers as provided in section three, shall be committed to the State Reform School; *provided, however*, that it shall be the duty of every truant officer previous to making complaint under this section, to notify the truant or absentee from school, also the person having him under control, of the offence committed and the penalty therefor, and if the truant officer can obtain satisfactory pledges that the child will conform to section one of this act, he shall forbear to prosecute so long as such pledges are faithfully kept.

SECT. 7. Police or municipal courts and trial justices shall have jurisdiction of the offences described in sections one, three, four and six.

TOWN FREE HIGH SCHOOL.

The growth of our High School during the past two years is highly gratifying. The average attendance for the year 1887, was 20. The average for the spring of 1888, was 28, and for last fall term it was 48. Of this number 17 were from the rural districts, and we may reasonably look for even a larger attendance this coming term.

The phenomanal growth is, I think, due almost wholly to the popularity and efficiency of its principal, Mr. E. W. Whitcomb. Under his management our High School now ranks among the best in the State. Through the wise generosity of the town in raising \$500 for its support, thus enabling the town to get \$250 additional from the State, our scholars throughout the town have free access to a higher and broader education than is possible in our rural schools.

I recommend that the town raise \$500 for the ensuing year for the support of a Town Free High School.

Appended to this report, will be found the yearly report of the Principal of the High School, and I suggest that his recommendations be given careful consideration.

UNION OF DISTRICTS.

At a special town meeting, held April 21, 1888, upon the recommendation of the Municipal officers and Supervisor of the town, accompanied by the proper statement of facts and supported by the petitions of a majority of the voters of the several districts interested, it was voted to annex districts Nos. 8, 10, and 22 to No. 9. At a later meeting held May 12, and called specially for the purpose, the opponents of this measure succeeded in obtaining a vote to reconsider and rescind this former action of the town, whereby these districts were united.

As doubts existed as to the legality of this later action of the town, the following Act has been introduced into our Legislature :

An Act to legalize and make valid the acts of the Town of Farmington.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows :

The acts and doings of the town of Farmington in their town meeting of May 12, eighteen hundred and eighty-eight, relating to school districts number eight, nine, ten and twenty-two, are hereby legalized and made valid.

SEC. 2. This act shall take effect when approved.

[Approved Feb. 16, 1889.]

THE TOWN SYSTEM OF SCHOOLS.

It is a lamentable fact that in many of our school districts, the number of school-children has been slowly but surely growing less. That as a result of this, the school privileges in those districts are growing yearly more meagre. The school reports of this town for many years past have been full of deprecations upon the necessarily cheap teachers employed, the short schools, the small attendance, the almost total want of educational aids, as maps, charts, blackboards, &c., &c., the poor and dilapidated schoolhouses. I endorse all that has been previously written, and with my predecessors, ask that the citizens of Farmington take hold of this important question in earnest, and grant a remedy.

There are but two ways in which our present condition can be bettered. The town can be redistricted, (making fewer districts), or the town system of schools can be adopted. As this latter course appears to me to be far preferable, I shall devote considerable space to a description of its workings.

As to the disposition of the school property, Sec. 3 of Chap 11, L. S., is so explicit, that it is quoted in full :

A town may abolish the school districts therein, and shall thereupon forthwith take possession of all schoolhouses, lands, apparatus, and other property owned and used for school purposes, which districts might lawfully sell and convey. The property so taken shall be appraised under the direction of the town, and at the next annual assessment a tax shall be levied upon the whole town, equal to the whole amount of said appraisal, or such part thereof as the town shall vote, and the remainder of said appraisal, if any, shall be levied by tax upon the whole town at the second and third annual assessments thereafter, or at the second alone, as the town shall vote, and there shall be remitted to the tax payers of each district the said appraised value of its property thus taken, in the same proportion, annually, as the tax therefor shall be levied, or the difference in the value of the property of the several districts may be adjusted in any other manner agreed upon by the parties in interest. Upon the abolition or discontinuance of any district, its corporate powers and liabilities continue so far as may be necessary for the enforcements of its rights and duties.

ACT OF 1885.

Whenever any town shall have abolished its school districts, as provided in section three of chapter eleven of the revised statutes, such action shall be held to abolish all union districts formed by said towns in concurrence with other towns as provided in section seventy-one of said chapter, and all districts which may have been specially chartered by act of legislature. In case of the abolition of any such union districts, when the schoolhouse belonging thereto is situated within the town abolishing, such town shall take possession of said house with all the appurtenances thereunto belonging, as in the case of districts wholly within the town, but shall pay to the town or towns in which is situated the other part or parts of such districts, for the benefit and use of such other part or parts, a sum equal to such portion of the value of said house and appurtenances as such part or parts shall be in equity entitled to, the same to be determined by agreement of the municipal officers of the towns out of which such union districts has been formed, or in case such officers cannot agree, by a board of referees by them agreed upon. In case the schoolhouse belonging to such union districts is not within the town abolishing, said town shall pay to the inhabitants of its part of said district, by abatement upon their taxes, a sum equal to their equitable interest in such schoolhouse and appurtenances, the same to be determined by the municipal officers of said town. Whenever any town shall have abolished its school districts, such districts shall not be re-established within the three years next thereafter.

In general terms, I would describe the town system to be the assumption by the town of all the rights and duties of school districts, while upon the school board, (Supervisor or S. S. Com.) devolve all the duties now enjoyed by school district agents.

The following letter from the Hon. N. A. Luce, State Superintendent of Common Schools, contains so much valuable information upon the subject under discussion that I give it in full :

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT, AUGUSTA, Feb. 12, 1889.

TO JOHN W. NICHOLS, ESQ., FARMINGTON,

Dear Sir,—Yours of 11th is at hand, and would say in reply to your questions, 1st. The matter of transportation of pupils at a distance from the schoolhouse remains as now a matter of judgment and discretion to school officers. I think however, from all the knowledge we have that arrangements are so made that very little money has been expended for this purpose. 2d. The main feature of the town system is that the pupils in all parts of the town are, as far as practicable, to have equal school privileges—equal terms of school if not equally equipped and costly teachers. 3d. It is usual for the school officers, in making their annual report, to give an estimate of the amount necessary to be expended for repairs for the coming year. For these repairs, if considerable, the town should vote an appropriation; if only ordinary repairs, such as setting glass and other inconsiderable items, the committee may take, as agents do, from school funds, not to exceed the legal limit. These repairs should be under the direction of the school officers (committee or supervisor) and they may select an agent to carry out their plans. All bills are subject to their approval. In order to report understandingly upon the subject, the committee examine into the condition of the property under their charge, and be prepared also to report what changes of location, if any, may be advisable, looking in the direction of consolidation of small districts. The number and location of schools are to be determined by the town. All new schoolhouses voted by the town are to be built by the town, the lot being selected by the selectmen and school officers, and located by the selectmen as now required in case of disagreement of district. The town system is, as far as may be, a plan for equalizing the privileges as well as the expenses of our schools, based upon the broad principle that "The property of the state shall educate the children of the state," and this burden shall bear equally upon the taxpayers of each town in the state. There is no equality,—no reason why a man living on one side of an imaginary, arbitrary district line should be subjected to a tax of 5 per cent. to build a \$500 schoolhouse, while his nearest neighbor on the other side of that line may secure for his children a \$5000 schoolhouse, with all its advantage of graded schools and modern appliances by a tax of perhaps less than one per cent. of his valuation. When the town builds and owns the schoolhouse, this hardship disappears. Cases similar to the above are found in almost every town having the district system. A similar condition prevails in regard to school privileges, some districts in the same town having 36 weeks of school in a year, others perhaps having 12 to 16, and of very inferior quality. In fine, the experiences of towns of various classes that have discarded the old system are united in these points of improvement and progress, better teachers and having a more certain tenure of office,—better supervision,—better schoolhouses,—an average increase of school weeks in a year,—better average attendance,—and generally a decided economy in the incidental running expenses of the schools. And, besides towns that have given the town system a three years' trial very rarely desire to return to districts.

The present condition of the movement may be summarized as follows:

In 4 counties, representing 226,165 population, 60 per cent. are using the town system.

In 7 counties of 360,396 aggregate population, 55 1-2 per cent. are under the town system.

In 10 counties of 440,490 population 51 per cent. have town system.

In the entire state over 38 per cent. have the town system.

The counties who most stubbornly adhere to the districts are Waldo, York, Oxford, Hancock, Franklin, Lincoln.

The counties which lead in the town movement are Androscoggin, Cumberland, Kennebec, Sagadahoc, Penobscot, Washington and Knox. Farmington should lead Franklin into the path of progress.

Yours truly, N. A. LUCE.

I have prepared a brief plan in which schools are located so as to accommodate the great majority of all pupils, as conveniently as at present. The schools to be of an equal length of 32 weeks, with liberal compensation for teachers, and incidental expenses, which plan I will take the liberty to present, only desiring to give definiteness to the proposed change, and that each voter may see how his own school privilege would be affected by the town system. (The number and location of schools are determined by the town).

Location.	No. of Teachers.	Price Per Week.
Farmington Falls,	1	\$ 8
Norton's Flat,	1	8
Village,	6	{ 5 40
		{ 1 25
Fairbanks,	1	8
West Farmington,	2	{ 1 6
		{ 1 10
Norton's Corner (Mosher Dist.)	1	6
Russell's Mills,	1	7
Near Dexter Sprague's,	1	6
Knowlton's Corner,	1	6
		<hr/> \$130

\$130 per week for 32 weeks equals \$4160, total paid for instruction. During year 1888 there was paid out for fuel, repairs and incidental expenses, \$730 plus \$4160 equals \$4890.

The total amount of school funds is about \$5500. From this amount subtract \$4890, and we have a balance of \$610, which amount could be expended in providing conveyance or school privilege for remote pupils, and in the purchase of additional school supplies.

In conclusion, I will sum up the advantage of this system :

Lengthened schools.—In 1887, the average length of schools in the various districts was 20 weeks.

Better teachers and the same teachers could be more readily retained throughout the year. In 1888, 44 different teachers have been employed.

Better equipped schoolhouses.—The same money which now is expended to keep in repair and furnish 21 houses, could be expended on 10.

From the greater attendance, both teachers and pupils would have more enthusiasm in their work. The course of study for the rural schools could be made much more effective and practical, and in all respects there would be a unison and harmony in our school work, which is utterly impossible at present.

Among the drawbacks to the adoption of a town system, is that of providing conveyance for remote scholars, and I would recommend that the town be exceedingly liberal in this direction. Why this year seems particularly the accepted year for adopting some change, lies in the fact that in some districts new schoolhouses will be built this year, and if their district limits be unchanged, schoolhouses will be erected only sufficient to accommodate their present needs, and would be too small, and probably in wrong place for use should the town subsequently adopt the town system, or should the Legislature abolish the district system throughout the State, as I believe it will within the next ten years.

This subject is of so much moment that it should be given a careful consideration by every citizen.

REPORT OF HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL.

To the Supervisor of Schools, Farmington :

I herewith respectfully submit my second annual report of the Village and Free High Schools.

I am happy to state that in the several grades there has been earnest and faithful work on the part of the teachers, and that the pupils have in most cases shown a commendable degree of interest in their work.

For some years past, as most parents know, the scholars of all the grades have been sadly deficient and behind in certain important branches of study. The present corps of teachers since their connection with the school have been making special effort to rectify these mis-

takes and to bring the pupils up to their proper standing. Thus far great advancement has been made and I trust that at the end of the present school year to find the classes of the respective grades up to the required standards.

The percentage of school attendance indicated a slight gain over that of last year. It undoubtedly could be increased provided parents would only remember that it is for the best interest and welfare of their children to be always punctual and regular in attendance. One day's absence possibly means that the subsequent lessons for a week or longer will be hard, dry, and uninteresting. In such cases students very often lose interest in their work, and as the class advances soon fail to understand and finally neglect to learn their lessons. The result is inevitable and their work for the term is a failure.

Cases requiring corporal punishment have been few, and I congratulate teachers and pupils upon the apparent willingness of the latter to obey the rules and regulations of school.

The wisdom of the town in voting to establish a Free High School has been strongly emphasized by the attendance of a goodly number of excellent scholars from the rural districts, and as a result we now have a High School such as we ought always to have—sufficiently large in number of pupils, prosperous and wide awake.

In the teaching of classics the same methods have been studiously observed as given in my report of a year ago. Also the daily practice of translating English sentences into Latin is required from the beginning of the course.

In the study of the sciences the classes find great difficulty in acquiring a thoroughly *practical* education, owing to the lack of suitable apparatus; in consideration of this fact would it not be wise to remedy the defect by voting a suitable appropriation to be expended expressly in supplying the school with such apparatus as it urgently needs?

It hardly seems proper to draw from the regular school fund for such expenditures since, only by the most careful economy are the necessary expenses of a school year met.

This last fall the Scientific Department received a valuable acquisition in the form of rare geological specimens of rocks presented by Miss Bertha Johnson of the graduating class of '87.

In conclusion allow me to extend my hearty thanks to the school officers for their confidence and cordial support during the past year.

Respectfully submitted,

E. W. WHITCOMB.

A Four Years' Course of Study for the Common School.

Pupils can begin this course who are familiar with the four fundamental rules of Arithmetic and able to read in the Fourth Reader.

FIRST YEAR.—Fourth Reader, Spelling, oral and written, Arithmetic to Weights and Measures, Elementary Geography completed, Language Lessons, using questions in the Reader, supplemented by questions by the teacher, Writing, Drawing, Mental Arithmetic.

SECOND YEAR.—Reading, Fourth Reader and Child's Book of Nature, Spelling, oral and written, Writing, Drawing, Arithmetic to Percentage, Geography to South America, Language Lessons, Grammar, Mental Arithmetic.

THIRD YEAR.—Reading, Child's Book of Nature and Fifth Reader, Spelling, oral and written, Writing, Drawing, Arithmetic to Involution, Geography completed, History of the United States through Revolutionary War, Grammar, Mental Arithmetic.

FOURTH YEAR.—Reading, Fifth Reader, Spelling, oral and written, Book-keeping, Arithmetic completed, U. S. History completed, Analysis, Physiology, Constitution of Maine, Mental Arithmetic, Examination covering the course by Superintending School Committee, Graduation.

Farmington High School.

CLASSICAL COURSE.

FIRST YEAR.—Latin (Grammar and Lessons), English Grammar and Composition, Arithmetic and Book-keeping (1st half year), Algebra (2d half year), Physical Geography and Botany (2d half year).

SECOND YEAR.—Latin (Cæsar), *Greek (Grammar and Lessons), General History, Algebra (1st half year), Algebra Review and Roberts' Rules of Order (2d half year).

THIRD YEAR.—Latin Composition, Latin (Cicero), † Greek (Anabasis), Greek Composition, Geometry, ‡ Ancient Geography and History.

FOURTH YEAR.—Latin (Virgil and General Review), § Greek (Anabasis and Homer), Review Mathematics, French or German.

* Civil Government and Physics, † Chemistry and Physiology, ‡ Rhetoric and English Literature, § Mental Philosophy and Political Economy.

Studies marked thus *, †, ‡, §, are optional as alternates for those of corresponding marks.

ENGLISH COURSE.

FIRST YEAR.—Grammar and Composition, English History, Arithmetic and Book-keeping (1st half year), Algebra (2d half year), Physical Geography and Botany (2d half year).

SECOND YEAR.—Rhetoric and English Literature, General History, Algebra (1st half year), Civil Government and Constitution of United States (1st half year), Physics (2d half year), Algebra Review and Roberts' Rules of Order (2d half year).

THIRD YEAR.—Geometry, English and American Literature, Composition, Chemistry and Mental Philosophy (1st half year), Physiology and Political Economy (2d half year).

GENERAL EXERCISES in English Composition, Elocution, Vocal Culture and Orthography throughout the courses. General and collateral readings prescribed for each class. Only those who have completed either of the Courses, and sustained an average of 70, will be entitled to a Diploma, but pupils may take a partial course and receive a certificate stating their proficiency in the studies pursued.

Farmington Grammar School.—Course of Study.

FIRST YEAR.—Grammar, Swinton's Language Lessons, Arithmetic from page 136 to 183, Geography to South America, Primer of Physiology, Writing, Drawing, Reading, Complete Child's Book of Nature.

SECOND YEAR.—Grammar, Language Lessons completed, Arithmetic from page 183 to 242, Geography completed, U. S. History commenced, Writing, Drawing, Reading.

THIRD YEAR.—Analysis, English Composition, Arithmetic, finish book and review, U. S. History, finish and review Botany, Writing, Drawing, Reading.

Farmington Intermediate School.—Course of Study.

FIRST YEAR.—Reading, Fourth Reader, Arithmetic from page 80 to 104, Geography to page 64, Writing, Drawing, Music, Spelling, Language Lessons.

SECOND YEAR.—Reading, Book of Nature (first half), Arithmetic from page 104 to 137, Geography completed, Language Lessons, Writing, Drawing, Music, Spelling.

SCHOOL STATISTICS.

The following brief summary of the year's work, is presented:

NO. 1.—FARMINGTON FALLS DISTRICT. Agent, C. E. Thomas. No. of scholars, 48. Spring term of 10 weeks, taught by Nettie M. Sewall; wages including board, \$7.00 per week; whole number attending school, 36; average attendance, 26. Winter term of 11 3-5 weeks, taught by O. E. Hardy; wages, \$45.00 per month including board; whole number attending school, 36; average attendance, 32.

NO. 2.—GOWER DISTRICT. Agent, C. H. Pierce. No. of scholars, 11. Spring term of 8 weeks, taught by Mrs. M. R. Pearson; wages, \$4.00, including board; whole number attending school, 8; average attendance, 7 9-13. Winter term of 11 weeks, taught by same teacher, wages, \$5.00; whole number attending, 9; average, 7 2-5.

No. 3—NORTON DISTRICT. Agent, E. H. Marwick. No. of scholars, 83. Spring term of 10 weeks, taught by Annie M. Fellows ; wages, \$7.25, including board. Whole number attending, 35 ; average attendance, 30. Fall term, by same teacher ; wages, \$7.25 ; whole number attending, 31 ; average attendance, 25. Winter term, now in session, taught by James Norton.

No. 4—VILLAGE DISTRICT.—Agent, Rev. E. Gerry. No. of scholars, 371. Spring and Summer term of 13 weeks. Teachers : Principal of High School, Enoch W. Whitcomb. No. attending school, 34 ; average attendance, 28. Grammar Grade, Mary V. Jacobs, No. attending, 33 ; average, 32. Intermediate, Carrie M. Douglass, No. attending, 50 ; average, 43. Upper Primary, Carrie A. Chase, No. attending, 36 ; average, 32. Lower Primary, Blanche M. Harrington, No. attending, 36 ; average, 28. Fall and Winter term of 16 weeks. Teachers : Enoch W. Whitcomb, Principal, Rose M. Tarbox, assistant of Town Free High School, No. attending, 58 ; average, 48. Grammar, Carrie A. Chase, No. attending, 41 ; average, 33 1-2. Intermediate, Carrie M. Douglas, No. attending, 37 ; average, 29. Upper Primary, Cora A. Jackson, No. attending, 41 ; average, 31. Lower Primary, Blanche M. Harrington, No. attending, 46 ; average, 24. Wages including board : Principal, \$100 per month ; lady teachers, \$7.00 to \$9.00 per week.

No. 5—FAIRBANKS DISTRICT. Agent, Rev. D. Church. No. of scholars, 58. Spring term of 7 weeks, taught by Ella G. Field ; wages, \$4.00 ; board, \$2.00 ; number attending, 24 ; average, 18. Fall term of 8 weeks, taught by Mrs. E. T. Sewall ; wages, \$6.25, including board ; number attending, 28 ; average, 22. Winter term now in session, taught by Rev. David Church.

No. 7—SPRAGUE DISTRICT. Agent, C. M. Partridge. No. of scholars, 23. Spring term of 8 weeks, taught by Della Prescott ; wages, \$3.50 ; board, not given ; number attending, 19 ; average, 17. Fall term of 5 weeks, taught by Nina Kinney ; wages, \$3.50 ; board, \$1.90 ; number attending, 21 ; average, 13 4-5. Winter term of 8 weeks, taught by Forest H. Badger ; wages, \$20.00 per month ; board, \$1.85 ; number attending, 20 ; average, 15 3-8.

At a special town meeting Dists. No. 8, 10, and 22 were united with Dist. No. 9 ; at a subsequent special town meeting, it was voted to reconsider and rescind the vote of the former meeting, by which the dis-

districts were united. As the legality of the last meeting is questionable, I cannot say whether Dists. No. 8, 9, 10, and 22, are one or four districts.

No. 8—CURRIER DISTRICT. Agent, Daniel P. Hobart. No. of scholars, 10. Spring term of 6 weeks, taught by Ida L. Tripp; wages, \$2.00; board, \$1.50; number attending, 4; average, 3 1-2. Winter term of 10 weeks, taught by E. K. Welch; wages, \$10.00 per month; board, \$1.75; number attending, 6; average, 5.4.

No. 9—WEST FARMINGTON DISTRICT. Agent, Geo. E. Lowell. No. of scholars, 92. Summer term of 10 weeks, taught by Lilla M. Scales; wages, \$5.00; board, \$2.00. Grace Parker, assistant teacher; wages, \$4.00, including board; number attending, 61; average, 47. Fall term of 11 weeks taught by John J. Hunt, with Miss Parker as assistant; wages, \$40.00 per month, assistant, \$2.50, including board; number attending, 83; average, 58. Winter term now in session, taught by same teacher.

No. 10—SEWALL DISTRICT. Agent, Sam'l G. Craig. No. of scholars, 19. Spring term of 8 weeks, taught by Annie G. Atherton; wages, \$3.00; board, \$1.50; number attending, 12; average, 11. Winter term now in session taught by same teacher.

No. 11—GREENWOOD DISTRICT. Agent, O. S. Greenwood. No. of scholars, 13. Fall term of 8 weeks, taught by Addie F. McLain; wages including board, \$5.00; number attending, 13; average, 10. Winter term of 6 weeks, by same teacher at same wages; number attending, 7; average, 6 1-2.

No. 12—KNOWLTON'S CORNER DISTRICT. Agent, E. H. Farmer. No. of scholars, 18. Spring term of 8 weeks, taught by Gertrude Lovejoy; wages, \$3.25; board, \$1.45; number attending, 10; average, 9. Winter term of 9 weeks, taught by J. B. Ranger; wages, \$20.00 per month; board, \$1.70 per week; number attending, 15; average, 11.

No. 14—BRIGGS DISTRICT. Agent, Joseph Swain. No. of scholars, 25. Spring term of 8 weeks, taught by Alice J. Swain; wages, \$2.00; board, \$1.75; number attending, 13; average, 11. Fall term of 5 weeks, taught by Walter J. Swain; wages, \$25.00 per month; board, \$2.00 per week; number attending, 16; average, 12. Winter term now in session, taught by Mrs. E. T. Sewall.

No. 15—RUSSELL'S MILLS DISTRICT. Agent, Chauncey Bangs. No. of scholars, 29. Spring term of 8 weeks, taught by Mrs. E. T. Sewall; wages, \$5.00; board, \$2.00; number attending, 18; average, 16 1-2.

Winter term of 12 weeks, taught by same teacher ; wages, \$7.00 ; board, \$2.00 ; number attending, 25 ; average, 19.

No. 16—PORTER HILL DISTRICT. Agent, Reuben Jones. No. of scholars, 5. Spring term of 8 weeks, taught by Faustina E. Trask ; wages, \$2.00 ; board, \$1.00 ; number attending, 4 ; average, 2 1-2. Fall Term of 10 weeks, by same teacher, at same wages and board ; number attending, 3 ; average, 2.

No. 17—BAILEY DISTRICT. Agent, Henry M. Bailey. No. scholars, 14. Fall term of 9 weeks, taught by Ella E. Nottage ; wages, \$3.00 ; board, \$2.20 ; number attending, 4 ; average, 3 1-2. Winter term of 8 weeks, by same teacher, wages and board the same ; number attending, 5 ; average, 4.

No. 18—TITCOMB DISTRICT. Agent, John H. Backus. No. of scholars, 16. Spring term of 8 weeks, taught by Eva A. Hatch, wages, \$4.75, including board ; number attending, 8 ; average, 7. Winter term of 11 weeks, taught by Nina E. Kinney ; wages, \$3.00 ; board, \$1.75 ; number attending, 6 ; average, 5 1-2.

No. 19—MOSHER DISTRICT. Agent, Hiram Ramsdell. No. of scholars, 19. Spring term of 8 weeks, taught by May E. Howes ; wages, \$3.50 ; board, \$1.40 ; number attending, 10 ; average, 9. Winter term of 11 weeks, taught by G. Milton Hatch ; wages, \$20.00 per month ; board, \$1.40 ; number attending, 14 ; average, 8.

No. 20—HOLLEY DISTRICT. Agent, E. Marshall Preston. No. of scholars, 14. Spring term of 5 weeks, taught by Marion George ; wages, \$2.75 ; board, \$1.65 ; number attending, 3 ; average, 2. Winter term of 9 weeks, taught by Eva A. Hatch ; wages, \$3.33 1-3 ; board, \$1.90 ; number attending, 4 ; average, 3.

No. 21—SPAULDING DISTRICT. Agent, A. S. Gifford. No. of scholars, 12. Spring term of 8 weeks, taught by Alice A. Farnum ; wages, \$2.50 ; board, \$1.60 ; number attending, 6 ; average, 5. Winter term of 7 1-5 weeks, taught by W. P. Holley ; wages, \$22.70 per month, including board ; number attending, 8 ; average, 6.

No. 22—WALTON'S MILLS DISTRICT. Agent, M. C. Hobbs. No. of scholars, 25. Scholars have attended school in Dist. No. 9.

No. 23—Union with Chesterville (Keith's Mills Dist.). Agent, J. B. M. Lovejoy. No. of scholars, 16.

No. 25—Union with Wilton. Agent, Daniel Pease. No. of scholars, 10.

No. 26—SMITH DISTRICT. Agent, Dennis Smith. No. of scholars, 2.

No. 28—Union with Industry (Allen's Mills Dist.). Agent, John M. Craig. No. of scholars, 7.

No. 30—HILLMAN DISTRICT. No agent chosen. No. of scholars, 2. (Returns made by Supervisor).

No. 31.—Union with New Sharon. Agent, Truman Luce. No. scholars, 6.

SCHOOL ITEMS.

Highest wages paid male teachers, including board, per month,	\$100 00
Lowest " " " " " " " "	17 00
Highest " " female teachers, " " " week,	9 00
Lowest " " " " " " " "	3 00

Number of male teachers employed, 11

" " female " " 31

" " teachers who have taught two or more terms in same school, 15

Average cost per scholar per week in those Districts in which complete returns have been received :

No. of School Districts.	No. of scholars.	Cost per week.
1	48	\$.27
2	11	.57
4	371	.24
7	23	.39
8	10	.88
11	13	.61
12	18	.57
16	5	1.33
17	14	1.41
18	16	.76
19	19	.68
20	14	1.97
21	12	.88

The general financial statistics relative to school funds are embodied in the report of the Selectmen.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

JOHN W. NICHOLS, *Supervisor.*

Farmington, Feb. 20, 1889.